THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

March 22, 2010

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 93% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

HB 5087, "AA Concerning Fiscal Notes".

This bill would require that fiscal notes be available at least 24 hours in advance of a meeting at which a committee is taking final action on the bill, although it allows certain exceptions.

Making sure the fiscal note process is followed in every instance is an important part of mandates reform. Requiring fiscal notes for committee action would be a step towards that goal, although the exceptions – if there is substitute language or by a simple majority vote, are too broad.

We urge you to tighten that language and favorably report this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

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If you have any questions, please contact Gian-Carl Casa or Bob Labanara of CCM, at (203) 498-3000.